

Appl. No.: 10/057,034
Attorney Docket No.: 10541-1182
Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2003

III. Remarks/Arguments

Reconsideration and re-examination of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is herein respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 12-14 have been amended. Claims 18-24 have been cancelled. Accordingly, after entering this amendment, claims 1-17 remain pending in this application.

Examiner's Suggestions

The undersigned gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's suggested amendments for claims 1, 2, and 12. Accordingly, the Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, and 12 to more clearly describe the covers.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Accordingly, the Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 4-8, and 12-14 to remove the term "adapted to". Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being fully anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,144,138 issued to Ragaly (Ragaly).

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The Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, and 12 to more clearly define the covers of the claimed invention and assert that the claims as amended are not anticipated by Ragaly. More specifically, the Applicants assert that Ragaly does not show or disclose "a plurality of covers, each of said covers being configured as a box shape and defining a cavity to substantially encase one of said permanent magnets therein and to be mounted to said outer radial periphery of said second pole piece to secure said permanent magnet to said second pole piece, each of said covers having at least two tabs extending circumferentially from two sides thereof".

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 9-11 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ragaly in view of the level of ordinary skills of a worker in the art.

The Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 12, and assert that claims 1 and 12, as amended are patentable over Ragaly. Further, the Applicants assert that claims 9-11 and 15-17 are allowable as depending, either directly or indirectly, from allowable independent claims 1 and 12 respectively. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

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IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as presently amended are patentably distinguishable over the art of record and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant authorizes charging of any fee deficiency to the deposit account of Applicant's assignee, Visteon Global Technologies, Inc., as indicated in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dated: 9-4-2003


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